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*HelCom*

OLC 75-1244  
28 May 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Jack Boos, House Select Committee Staff, Regarding Access to Information

1. I called Jack Boos and told him that following our earlier conversation I had talked with the Director about access to "the book" (a copy of the material we have placed on deposit with George Murphy, of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy staff, for the Senate Select Committee) and the Director had indicated that there was more material in that book to be concerned about than just the topics which he covered with the Chairman on the subject of assassinations. I said that while the Director was quite willing to brief the Chairman on this subject and to have Boos and Searle Field sit in on that briefing, he did not feel that we should get into the business of exchanging documents and making other material available to the Committee and staff until we had set up guidelines and procedures as to just how we are going to function. I said I had the feeling that when the Chairman raised a question at our meeting yesterday about Field's status, and the Director said he would accept the Chairman's guarantee of his status, that the Chairman was reluctant to go along with this. I said that before a security clearance was granted I would assume that the Committee, for its own protection, would want the benefit of something comparable to an FBI field investigation. We went into some agonizing discussion about whether or not the Committee should permit an Executive agency such as the FBI, the Department of Defense, the Civil Service Commission or even ERDA to conduct an investigation of Committee staff personnel who would ultimately be investigating those organizations. I told Boos that it seemed to me if they concluded that they could not accept the field investigation of any of these agencies that the Committee would then want to set up its own investigative staff to conduct a similar investigation to those made by the Executive Branch in accordance with accepted standards. I went on to say the Director had indicated that once procedures are established he would have no objection to their looking at "the book" either here or on the Hill but I didn't see how we could cover that situation in the absence of a security clearance on Field and accepted procedures for the exchange of and review of classified material.

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2. Boos asked if I could give him a checklist of the things that were concerning us. I said I could get this from Mr. Knoche, but certainly there were several things such as security clearances, secrecy agreements, and physical security arrangements that I knew were high on that list. We talked about the Committees rules and Boos said that they are now being typed up and he would get a copy of them to us this afternoon.

25X1A 3. I called Boos back later in the day and said that I had met with Hank Knoche and [redacted] who had indicated that it might be helpful if Boos came out to Headquarters, alone, at 3:30 tomorrow at which time he could look at "the book" and we could talk further about rules, procedures, and guidelines. Boos said he had talked to the Chairman about this and that Nedzi is ready to certify Searle Field for Security. Talked a bit about physical security and Boos indicated that they wouldn't be moving into their Rayburn Building space for about a month and a half and wondered if we could do a survey of the present location in the interim. I said it was my understanding that Charlie Kane had offered ten days ago to come up and look at the present facility but Carl Simms had suggested that he wait until they had moved into their new facilities. Boos said this was essentially accurate, but he had advised Simms that they should go ahead and get the present location squared away right now. I said I didn't know of any reason why security couldn't come up and look it over and that I would get in touch with Charlie Kane. In the meantime, we are planning on Boos coming to the building at 3:30 tomorrow.

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[redacted]  
GEORGE L. CARY  
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